

Abstract

An information signal is logically divided into  $n$ -bit information words. Each information word is converted into an  $m_1$ -bit channel word, in accordance with a channel code  $C_1$ , or an  $m_2$ -bit channel words, in accordance with a channel code  $C_2$ , where  $m_1$ ,  $m_2$  and  $n$  are integers and  $m_2 > m_1 > n$ . The  $m_2$ -bit channel word is chosen from one of at least two different  $m_2$ -bit channel words, at least two of which have opposite parities, the resulting  $m_1$ -bit and  $m_2$ -bit channel words are concatenated into a binary channel signal complying with a runlength constraint of the binary channel signal. Each channel code including a plurality of sets of channel words. Each set having at least one channel word associated with each possible information word. The channels words of each set having different beginning parts than other sets. The selection of a set depending on the ending of the immediately preceding channel word.

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